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REMARKS

With entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9-12, 14-15, 17-19, 21-24, 26-27 and 29-37 remain in the application, of which Claims 2, 5, 10, 14, 17, 24, 27, 29, 30, 32, and 34 are independent.

Allowed Claims

At paragraph 8 of the last Office Action, Claims 30-37 were found allowable. Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 30-37.

Allowable Claims

All other claims remaining in the application, namely Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9-12, 14, 15, 17-19, 21-24, 26, 27 and 29, are believed to now be allowable.

At paragraph 9 of the Office Action, Claims 2, 5, 10, 14, 17, 24, 27, and 29 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With entry of the foregoing amendment, Claim 2 is now rewritten in independent form. Claim 3 depends from Claim 2. These claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim 5 has also been rewritten in independent form and is thus now allowable. Claims 6 and 7 depend from Claim 5 and are also allowable.

Claim 10 has also been rewritten in independent form, and Claims 9, 11, and 12 depend from Claim 10. Thus, Claims 9-12 are in condition for allowance.

Similarly, Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form, with Claim 15 depending from Claim 14. Thus, Claims 14 and 15 should also be in condition for allowance.

Claim 17 has also been rewritten in independent form and is thus now allowable. Claims 18 and 19 depend from Claim 17 and are allowable.

Likewise, Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form and Claims 21-23 depend from Claim 24. Thus Claims 21-24 should now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 27 is now also rewritten in independent form and is thus now allowable. Claim 26 depends from Claim 27 and is allowable.

Similarly, Claim 29 has been rewritten in independent form, and should now be in condition for allowance.

Regarding Double Patenting Rejections

Several claims remaining in this application were also rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,725,047.

In response to this rejection, Applicants are submitting a Terminal Disclaimer herewith.

Accordingly, this rejection is believed to be overcome.

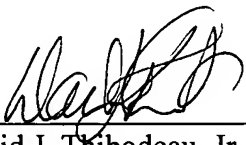
Applicants reserve the right to present the canceled claims in a continuation application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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